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George Leslie Omwake
Ursinus College

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URSINUS COLLEGE BULLETIN

Volume XIV. MARCH 1, 1898. Number 11.

Ursinus College Bulletin

EDITORIALS.

PUBLISHED TWICE A MONTH FROM OCTOBER TO JULY BY THE STUDENTS OF URSINUS COLLEGE.

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DURING the course of the sensational events which have recently been occupying the attention of our nation, an opportunity has been afforded of studying the temperament of the different classes of citizens which make up our population. We have read closely the news of the colleges to observe if possible the attitude of the great body of American students. Only one public demonstration has come under our notice. In this particular instance the students of one of our institutions paraded the streets of the town and held a public mass meeting in which they gave vent to the sentiment, "Cuba Libre." We do not wish to criticise this body of students for their action and yet we are glad that such demonstrations are not more common. In European countries it has been common for the student class to take the lead in sensational and revolutionary movements but it does not follow that such should be the case in the United States. It is questionable if good sense has always been shown by the foreign students in their attitude toward national policies, and certainly it is not the part of educated men to break forth in frenzy over any affair that may claim the attention of this country. The tendency seems to be rather toward conservatism, and this, in our opinion, is far more proper. No doubt, every American student would like to see the condition of the Cubans alleviated at once and most of them would like to see self government established, but they are not willing as educated, thinking men, to disregard every

other condition in the case and follow the sentiment of the crowd. Reason and knowledge of our national principles will always bespeak less haste and greater wisdom in urging the execution of any business of the government. The opinions of the student class will have far more weight if expressed in some less sensational form than mass meetings and parades.

* * *

It is time for us to take some interest in the coming State Intercollegiate Oratorical Contest which will be held at Lafayette College, Easton Pa., March 11. Ursinus should give all the encouragement possible to her representative in the contest. One way to do this will be for a goodly number of students to accompany him to Easton on that occasion. Let the Ursinus tricolor wave before him to lend inspiration and good cheer. A committee should be constituted as early as possible to canvass the student body

and get up as large a delegation as possible. We have no doubt but that Lafayette will heartily welcome the visiting delegations.

* * *

An effort has been made to have the various clubs and boarding houses at which the students take meals, adopt a uniform supper hour, serving the evening meal at six o'clock. This is certainly a proper move and we wonder that it was not made long ago. Everyone knows how difficult it has been to get satisfactory practice hours for the various organizations. By having supper served at six o'clock, two full hours will be at the disposal of students after the afternoon periods for musical and athletic practice and recreation. The change will prove beneficial especially for baseball practice, and now that outdoor work is about to be begun we hope every candidate will put in full time on the field.

LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS.

SCIENCE IN OUR COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES.*

The colleges and universities are institutions established for the purpose of imparting intellectual guidance to the masses, and for the purpose of discussing and resolving the theoretical and scientific problems which present themselves in the development of civilization. The college education of today is mostly a matter of dead languages, and colleges are imposing on the young men and wo-

men of the 19th century "a curriculum devised by dead-and-gone priests of the 12th century." Science, the most important and useful branch of human knowledge, is thus sadly slighted and neglected. Shall the obsolete and useless classics continue to be the major part of our curriculum or shall science reign instead and thus fulfill the purposes for which our higher educational institutions were established?

The average man who takes a course in our colleges of today does not wish to obtain the mastery of the classics only and then travel through the avenues of life with such a scanty amount of knowl-

*Extracts from recent articles on Science and Modern Education discussed in *The Cosmopolitan* and *The Science*.

edge. The Medieval idea that a course in arts fits a man for everything has been eradicated from the minds of the masses. The student who has devoted five or six of the best years of his life to the study of the ancient languages and has given no attention to the sciences, is dwarfed and narrowed in his conceptions. Horace Greely thought of just such a student as this when he said: "Of all horned cattle deliver me from the college graduate."

Science of the 19th century permeates all the avenues of life. It appeals to the very nature of man. Nowhere in the broad field of knowledge will the student learn better to think exactly than in the natural sciences. Nowhere will he be more impressed with the importance of truth for truth's sake. The late F. A. Walker, in his article on Modern Education, remarked the following: "Science manifests an elevating and truth-respecting tendency as compared with the pursuit of those studies in which arbitrary rules, often entirely unreasonable, are the subject matter of investigation and in which the faculty of highest value is often that which can develop an ingenious fallacy rather than reveal a new fact."

In order to be successful in any profession, one must be well versed in the natural sciences. The professional man, if he is a physician, is a criminal if he does not know and apply the science bearing upon his profession. The lawyer who has only that knowledge which the middle ages might have given him, is soon eliminated from the bar. If the clergyman misrepresents nature which he might have known and to which he so often turns for illustrations, how can he expect unhesitating acceptance of his words, concerning the profound myster-

ies, that all, even the most favored, must "see as through a glass darkly?"

The ignorance of many of our college graduates is deplorable. It is, however, very gratifying to learn that our college presidents are realizing this fact as can be seen by the following lines quoted from an address made by the President of Kansas University: "To the average college graduates, the simplest functions of their own bodies remain for the most part sealed mysteries, the commonest laws of nature inscrutable. In fact, the ignorance of nature as a whole among the majority of the graduates of the so-called liberal colleges is usually abysmal in its profundity, stygian in its opacity. In the rules of philosophy they may be able to 'distinguish and divide a hair betwixt south and southwest side,' but are unable to tell the difference between granite and limestone, a polywog and a porpoise. In the laws of political economy they may talk learnedly and dogmatically, but are unable to locate the liver in their own body or to tell its functions. I verily believe that a third of the graduates in arts of our universities and a fourth of their instructors could not tell whether the pancreas is located above or below the diaphragm, or whether or not they have either pancreas or diaphragm at all. Grant Allen, in the *Cosmopolitan*, says: "Quite well-informed people will speak of a porpoise or a lobster as a fish; such grotesque blunders ought to be made impossible; they ought to be considered far more damnable evidence of ignorance and ill-breeding than 'you was' or 'me and him went there.'" With such a standard how many college graduates are there who are educated?"

Is this department of human knowledge which, more than all others, has

been the foundation of the civilization of the present, which has done more to lengthen life, to ameliorate its burdens, to improve purity and to advance the world; which has furnished one of the great underlying principles of modern education, of which even the philologist boasts—laboratory methods; which has established the great underlying principle of all progress—evolution; is this department of knowledge, I say, of so little importance that it is practically ignored in the requirements of a modern liberal education? Twenty-five years ago, the classical course was the almost invariable one in our colleges; but even in those times one was required to learn the rudiments of physics, chemistry, botany, zoology and geology. Now modern education has liberalized the course by making the larger part of the language studies compulsory and all or nearly all the natural sciences optional. Let the curriculums of our colleges and universities then be revolutionized! Let the study of science be encouraged and thus learn to appreciate and to apply the scientific method so admirably stated by Saint Paul, "Prove all things; hold fast to that which is good." Let the classics be lowered from their exalted and unworthy position and let the sciences be raised to that elevated and majestic standing which they so richly deserve. Then a new epoch will begin in the educational world which will eclipse the brightest age of Grecian learning and the most transplendent period of Roman culture.

A. R. K., '98.

DUTY.

Duty is an obligatory act; an expedient service; a moral necessity.

While no one denies that there are many duties, in a general way, incumbent upon man, it is a fact that too few think specifically and seriously of what these are, and what laxity in dealing with them means. There are two classes of duties; one the product of civil law, made expedient by fear; the other the product of social law, the law of love and sympathy. The first class is so absolute and empirically shown and understood that there is left no latitude of interpretation; e. g., to refrain from killing and stealing, to pay a debt, to return what is entrusted to us, etc.

Knowing that the violation of these mandates will bring immediate punishment, persons generally do their duty. The latter class, however, although inexorable as the former, necessarily leaves persons considerable freedom of interpretation and execution, so that there can be no strict standard apart from each one's conscience. It is my duty to obey my parents; not so with the Hindoo, who, his heart having been touched by divine grace, must abandon his for Christ. Duty will make one mother sacrifice her life for her child, it will make another cast her child into the sacred Ganges.

The duties of which we shall speak, and which concern the civilized part of the human race are: religious, personal, and social.

Religions. "Where there is no law there is no transgression;" consequently no disobedience; but where there is a law, ignorance of it will not excuse its violators. It is, therefore, the first requisite of man to learn God's law in order to know what his duties are. This can be done only by a careful study of the Bible, going to church to hear it explained by those whom God has endowed

with special power for this work, and by attention to the Holy Spirit, whom Christ sends to teach men.

It is our imperative duty to unite with the Christian Church, authorized by God's eternal purpose, and established by Christ's inexorable command, that its sacraments might be the channels of grace to men seeking salvation. This needs no proof more than the fact that Christ, who never imposed a superfluous act upon anyone, commands his followers to partake of the sacraments; and that we must be his followers and obey his commands, in order to obtain salvation, which it is our duty to seek, is obvious.

It is our duty to study the character of God, which duty has a tendency to promote the perfection of our character; to recognize his hand in all his providences, as no one should live in the midst of these wonderful operations unmindful of their Author; to be submissive to his will at all times and under all circumstances; to cherish feelings of reverence; and to pray regularly, thanking him for all his mercies.

It is our duty to work for the promulgation of the kingdom of God. Christ's words are to us as to his disciples, "As the Father sent me into the world, so send I you." We should show Christ-like love for all persons, not supposing any superior or inferior to ourselves. While we must regard none too base for us to associate with, as God will keep us unspotted so long as our motives are the propagation of good, we must be careful that our motives are pure; to what extent we make the person our friend, and to what extent we are influenced by him.

Sometimes we must choose between a friend and God, and indeed often the for-

mer is chosen. It is a sad fact that so many church members, particularly young ladies, brought up in church and Christian homes, claiming allegiance to Christ and heirship to heaven, give their hearts and hands to persons who are not Christians. Either they exchange Christ for a companion or hope to gain the companion for Christ. The ultimate result is generally the first. Oh, reader! "Be not unequally yoked together with unbelievers."

Personal. As God made man with high capabilities, and holds him responsible for the proper development of these, man is under obligation to himself to be that for which he was created. Man was made to be man—human, not brute, as some make themselves. As it is culture which lifts man above the other animals, he owes it to himself that he endeavor to advance to as high a degree of perfection as is attainable.

It is man's duty to be content with his lot. There is a tendency toward unhappiness by habitually thinking about wants and woes; magnifying misfortunes and setting against one's own poverty and hardship the abundance and enjoyment of others, by which so many keep themselves in a perpetual and feverish discontent and petulant complaining. Their fretfulness drives away all comfort; their mourning excludes all gratitude; and they can neither enjoy what they have, because someone else has so much more, nor sympathize with anyone's distress, because their sorrows have been so much greater. Such a temper ripens to a more gloomy and sullen discontent; broods over real ills or imaginary injuries and develops a spirit of malevolence.

Social. We believe that very few realize their obligation to society. Man

was not created a solitary being, but was made to live in fellowship. The fact that God created a second person to make the first one happy, and that we naturally seek the companionship of others, from which to derive pleasure, we believe proves that part of every one's mission is to make others happy, and if anyone fails to do this, he fails to fulfill his mission.

The law of benevolence requires us to cultivate a cheerful disposition. As sunshine revives vegetation, so cheerfulness promotes the happiness of those in whose presence it is found; but as ice chills that with which it comes in contact, so a gloomy, desponding man throws a chill over every circle he enters. The happi-

ness of a whole family may be and often is impaired and even completely destroyed by the odious disposition of one member.

Gratitude for all kindness should be shown by delicate attention which is proof of affection. The feelings of others should always be held in the highest respect; slander should be let sink into the great sea of oblivion, or in the words of Dr. Weinberger, "lived down." Right should be the only prerogative of every man; kindness should be shown gratuitously and all men should believe that the highest good they can do for their fellows is inadequate.

BUCHANAN, '99.

COLLEGE NEWS.

THE LIBRARY PARTY.

Washington's memory was duly honored on February 22 in the reception which Miss Harriet A. Mumford, the College librarian, gave the students, Faculty and friends of Ursinus.

The library served as a reception room and was tastefully decorated with national flags and bunting, and brightened with College colors, while palms and flowering plants added their native charm to the maze of color. A mound of evergreens and flowers to the right of the entrance marked the place of the receiving party.

The guests were received by Miss Mumford, assisted by Mrs. Mensch, Mrs. Dodge, Mrs. Barnard and Mrs. Lentz. Each guest, either by costume or some other device, represented the title of a book. A catalogue of the books represented was furnished and the task of

identification gave a zest to the conversation which was decidedly bookish. In guessing the characters the ladies outdid the boys by great odds, Miss Vinnie O. Mensch receiving the first favor.

Among the characters represented were Miss Laros as "Spring," Miss Bowman as "Faery Queen," Mrs. Mensch as "A Study in Scarlet," Mrs. Hobson as "In Silk Attire," Miss Hendricks as "In Evening Dress," Miss Royer as "Vanity Fair," Mrs. Dodge as "Over the Teacups," Miss Debbie Koons as "Beside the Bonnie Brier Bush," Miss Moser as "The Princess," Mr. Heiges as "The Complete Angler," Mr. Laros as "The Umbrella Mender," Dr. Dodge as "Bitter-Sweet," Mr. Stick as "Blind Musician," Mr. Omwake as "Many Inventions," Mr. R. Caselberry as "Great Arithmos," Mr. Keiter as "Oliver Twist," Miss Mumford as "Among My Pooks."

During the evening Miss Katie Laros gave a piano solo, and Miss Frances G. Moser a mandolin solo. The Glee Quartette also rendered a selection. Refreshments were served in Dr. Barnard's recitation room, no less beautifully decorated than the library.

The guests present represented Philadelphia, Norristown, Pottstown, Phoenixville and neighboring towns. Miss Mumford served as hostess with absolute grace and the success of the library party was commented on with universal favor.

STATE Y. M. C. A. CONVENTION.

The thirtieth annual state convention of Young Men's Christian Associations met in the city of York, February 17-20, 1898. It was the largest state convention that has ever been held. The rain which continued throughout the sessions did not dampen the ardor of the convention, which was characterized from beginning to end by spiritual power and enthusiasm.

There were about 150 college delegates present, representing nearly all the institutions of the state. Two special college sessions were held, one on Friday afternoon at which State Secretary Charles W. Harvey and Mr. Luther D. Wishard, one of the pioneers of the student movement, made addresses, and the other on Saturday afternoon in the lecture room of St. Paul's Lutheran Church. At this conference Prof. E. Mackey, Superintendent of the schools of Reading, presided, and papers were read by G. L. Omwake of Ursinus, R. W. Woods of Gettysburg, H. A. Bailey of Grove City, R. T. Wiltbank of Bucknell and C. H. Haas of Susquehanna. After the conference refreshments were served by the ladies of the

church, during which the students participated in college songs and cheers.

A part of the general session on Saturday evening was also given to college men, at which time a number of five minute addresses on important topics of general interest, were made by representative students.

A feature of the convention was the singing of Prof. H. L. Maxwell of Du Puaw University, Greencastle, Ind.

SOPHOMORE BANQUET.

The Sophomore Class of Ursinus College held its banquet at Stritzinger's banquet hall, Norristown, on Wednesday evening, February 23, 1898.

The boys were given full possession of the hall, which was very beautifully decorated with flowers and evergreens; and, as the town clock sounded the hour of nine, the merry banqueters gathered around a table laden with many good things.

The menu follows:

Blue Points on the Half Shell	
Olives	Celery
Mock Turtle Soup	
Broiled Oysters	Chicken Salad
Roman Punch	
Chicken Croquettes	French Peas
Ice Cream	Fancy Cakes
Coffee	
Cheese	Crackers
Cigars	Cigarettes

Between the courses the feast was enlivened with songs and class and college yells.

The toasts proposed and responded to are as follows:

Our Class, C. G. Petri.

"Yes—it shall be—the magic of that name
Defies the scythe of time, the touch of flame."

The Powers That Be, C. B. Heinly.

"Much may be said on either side."

Reminiscences, D. E. Hottenstein.

"There's a feeling within us that loves to revert
To the merry old times that are gone."

The Ladies, J. E. Stone.

"The proper study of mankind is man ;
The most perplexing one, no doubt, is woman."

Athletics of 1900, R. A. Rinker.

"To win the wreath of fame,
And write on memory, a scroll a deathless name."

A Parson's Trials, W. H. Bisbing.

"A still small voice spoke unto me
Thou art so full of misery
Were it not better not to be?"

Impromptu, E. M. Hershey.

"What a babble of voices smites my ears."

The Sucklings, G. E. Oswald.

"Me thought I heard a child cry."

Ursinus, H. E. Bodder.

"Ye halls, in whose seclusions and repose
Phantoms of fame, like exhalations, rose and
vanished."

RECEPTION TO STUDENTS.

The students from the different educational institutions of the Reformed Church who were in attendance at the Pennsylvania State Y. M. C. A. Convention at York were given a reception by the Rev. and Mrs. O. P. Shellhamer, '85, at their home in that city on Saturday evening, February 19. Besides the students, the following Reformed ministers of the city were present: Rev. F. C. Yost, Rev. Morgan A. Peters and Rev. H. M. J. Kline.

During the evening students from the different colleges were asked to make addresses on behalf of the Associations which they represented. Mr. E. N. Evans spoke for Franklin and Marshall, Mr. G. L. Omwake, for Ursinus and Mr. C. H. Chess for Mercersburg. The ministers also made short speeches in which they expressed their appreciation of the occasion and their joy at the fraternal spirit manifested. The host and hostess fur-

ther showed their hospitality by inviting the guests to the dining room, where elegant refreshments were served.

The following students were present: from Franklin and Marshall, W. H. Kretchman, F. B. Shaffer, J. S. Staudt, E. N. Evans, H. K. Benson, C. L. Noss, C. A. Lauffer; from Ursinus, C. A. Butz, G. W. Kerstetter, G. L. Omwake, J. E. Stone, V. S. Rice, A. C. Ohl; from Mercersburg, F. B. Forthman, J. A. Eyler, H. O. Wagner, George Bell, N. W. Kernohan, V. A. Barnhart, W. R. Barnhart, C. H. Chess.

NEW BOOKS.

The Librarian reports the following recent additions to the college library:

Raul—Helps in the Use of Good English.
Giddings—Principles of Sociology.
Mackenzie—Introduction to Social Philosophy.
Ward—Dynamic Sociology, 2 volumes.
Clodd—Primer of Evolution.
Spencer—Study of Sociology.
Symonds—Italian Renaissance.
Olyphant—Makers of Venice.
Gardiner—Cromwell's Place in History.
Morgan—Ancient Society.
Jevons—The State in Relation to Labor.
Black—In Silk Attire.
Longfellow—Evangeline.

REMOVAL OF THE SCHOOL OF THEOLOGY.

At the winter meeting of the Board of Directors, held Tuesday, February 23, in response to overtures from the Theological Faculty, and a number of Philadelphia ministers and laymen, the following resolution was adopted:

"Resolved, That for the greater convenience and advantage of students and Professors, the instruction of the School

of Theology be conducted after this year in the City of Philadelphia."

This announcement is very gratifying to the candidates for the ministry in Ursinus College, and will have a most important bearing upon the education of ministers of the Reformed Church in the future. The city affords advantages to students in a professional school which cannot be enjoyed anywhere else, and the larger the city the greater the opportunity for training along advanced lines of church work.

LOCALS.

Next Senior orations are due March 10.

C. P. Wehr, S. T., '98, preached at Longswamp, Lehigh County, February 12.

Miss Katie Mensch visited her sister Miss Vinnie Mensch, '99, several days in February.

Much interest is being taken in baseball. Ursinus must have a winning team this season.

The work on the new catalogue is about completed and will soon be placed in the hands of the printers.

Physical Director W. H. Klase is making preparation for an athletic exhibition to be held sometime during this month.

The various boarding clubs have changed the supper hour from 5.15 to 6.00 o'clock, so as to allow more time for practice for the athletic and musical organizations.

Omwake, '98, read a paper before the Conference of College Men at the recent State Y. M. C. A. Convention at York, on "System in College Y. M. C. A. Work; Its Importance, How Secured."

The Junior Class at a recent meeting elected the following officers: President, Oberholtzer; Vice-President, Landis; Secretary, Johnson; Treasurer, Kugler; Poet, Paist; Baseball Manager, Buchanan; Baseball Captain, Kugler.

Boyer, of the Academy, climbed to the top of the flag pole on Washington's Birthday to adjust the rope which had been displaced some time ago by mischievous students. This pole was erected for the United States flag alone and should not be used by students for other purposes.

The Glee and Mandolin Clubs have been meeting with success thus far. The manager of the Clubs is making arrangements for a tour to be made this spring. We hope alumni and others will give all the assistance they possibly can to this project. The Clubs are in splendid condition and will make very favorable impressions.

ALUMNI PERSONALS.

'76, S. T. Rev. Charles H. Coon, A. M., pastor of Trinity Reformed Church, Philadelphia, has gone to Florida for recuperation and rest after a protracted attack of grippe.

'85. Rev. S. L. Messinger, A. M., pastor of St. Luke's Church, Trappe, Pa., read a paper recently before the Reformed Ministerial Association of Montgomery County, on the subject, "Is the Church

Losing Influence in the World?" The paper is very highly spoken of by those who heard it.

'88. Rev. A. S. Bromer, B. D., Pastor of Grace Church, Philadelphia, whose church is enjoying increasing prosperity, served as Secretary of the conference of ministers and laymen held at the First Church, Philadelphia, February 7, in the interests of the removal of the Ursinus School of Theology to that city.

'89. Mr. H. M. Slotterer, A. B., of Trappe, has charge of the grammar school at Oaks Station, Pa., for a second term.

'89, S. T. Rev. M. H. Brensinger, A. B., pastor at Fleetwood, Pa., is studying Hoffding's Psychology in the course of philosophical readings he is following.

'89, S. T. Rev. W. H. Shepp, A. B., of Tamaqua, Pa., is supplying a Presbyterian mission at Lansford, Pa.

'90. Rev. Paul M. Spangler, A. B., who was recently bereft of his wife by death, is doing successful pastoral work at East Berlin, Adams County, Pa.

'90, S. T. Rev. N. W. Sechler is continuing in his first and only charge, Ringtown, Pa., with unabated success. He has built three new churches, raises his benevolent apportionments and supports his Alma Mater liberally.

'91. Rev. I. F. Wagner, A. B., whose residence is at Pottsville, Pa., has charge of a church at Minersville and of one at Frackville, Pa., both of which he can reach by trolley.

'92. Rev. I. M. Bachman, B. D., of East Mauch Chunk, Pa., has not lost his interest in his violin, and is the leader of an orchestra in the town in which he resides, as well as of a successful church.

'92, S. T. Rev. Paul H. Land, A. B., is completing this year a course of study for the Ph. D. degree at Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore.

'93. Professor Chas. E. Reber, A. M., Pd. D., is pursuing a course of graduate study at Harvard University preparatory to his work as Professor of English at Ursinus College.

'93. Rev. H. A. Welker, A. B., is stationed at Pottstown, Pa. In connection with his mission work he is supplying a Presbyterian church in the vicinity.

'93, S. T. Rev. Samuel F. Hartzell has taken up his residence at Fredericksburg, Pa. He is at present supplying an independent church five miles distant from his new home.

'93, S. T. Rev. Jesse H. String is pastor of the Reformed church at Bluffton, Indiana. He writes that he is enjoying his western home and his work is prospering.

'94. Edwin Miller Fogel, A. M., is doing a second year's successful work as one of the teachers in the preparatory school of the Moravian Church at Bethlehem, Pa.

'94. Rev. Geo. W. Royer, A. B., has been installed as pastor of Brownback's Church, Chester County, Pa. His address is Slonaker, Pa.

'96. George Force Longacre, A. B., is teaching in the public schools of Limerick township.

'97, S. T. Rev. Richard A. Most, A. B., has taken charge of a German church at Terre Haute, Ind.

'97, S. T. Rev. William Tœnnes, A. B., has become the successor of Rev. H. F. Witzel, deceased, in the pastorate of Grace Reformed Church, Hazleton, Pa.